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09/837,041	04/18/2001	Terrence Ross O'Brien	ROC920000304US1	9205
7590	07/11/2006		EXAMINER	
Gero G. McClellan Thomason, Moser & Patterson, L.L.P. 3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1500 Houston, TX 77056-6582				FADOK, MARK A
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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 09/837,041

Filing Date: April 18, 2001

Appellant(s): O'BRIEN ET AL.

Gero G. McClellan
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 4/6/2006 in appealing from the Office action mailed July 7, 2005.

(1) *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences*

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings, which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) *Status of Claims*

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) *Status of Amendments After Final*

No amendment after final has been filed.

(5) *Summary of Claimed Subject Matter*

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) *Issues*

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) *ClaimsAppealed*

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Acknowledgement of the related Evidence Appendices

Related Evidence Appendix is not present.

(9) Acknowledgement of the related Proceeding

Related Proceedings Appendix is present.

(10) Evidence Relied Upon

6,125,391

Meltzer et al

9-2000

(11) Grounds of Rejections to be Reviewed

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 1-4, and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Meltzer et al (6,125,391).

In regards to claim 1, Meltzer discloses a system for handling eCommerce requests, comprising: (a) at least one application configured to process a request in a transformed format (Fig 4),

wherein the request is received from one of a plurality of requesting entities in an original format and mapped to the transformed format (Fig 9);

(b) at least one specification document configured to produce metadata defining a relationship between data of the request in the original format and data of the request in the transformed format (Fig 9), wherein the metadata comprises a plurality of metadata instances each configured to support a different request protocol (col 32, lines 12-55); and

(c) a flow manager configured to utilize the metadata to map the request in the original format to the request in the transformed format and to call the at least one application (Fig 13).

In regards to claim 3, Meltzer teaches wherein the data of the request in the original format comprises fields and wherein the metadata maps the fields to input fields of the at least one application (Fig 4).

In regards to claim 4, Meltzer teaches wherein the request is a purchase order and the data comprises fields of the purchase order (Fig 10).

In regards to claim 8, Meltzer teaches wherein the original format comprises cXML, mXML, XCBL, OCI, ebXML (col 84, lines 15-35).

In regards to claim 9, Meltzer teaches wherein the at least one specification document comprises at least one of:

message formatting rules comprising definitional data and configured to define an association between the definitional data and the data of the request in the original format (Fig 15);

an access method configured to define an interface to the at least one application; and

a process flow model configured to associate the message formatting rules and the access method instance and comprising mapping rules configured to map input fields of the request in the original format to input fields of the at least one application.

In regards to claim 10, Meltzer teaches wherein the association is between a first plurality of fields of the definitional data and a second plurality of fields of the data of the request in the original format (Fig 15).

In regards to claim 11, Meltzer teaches wherein each access method is configured to support applications of a particular application type (see response to claim 9).

In regards to claim 12, Meltzer teaches wherein the particular application type comprises at least one of program calls, JAVA programs, and queue applications (see response to claim 9).

(12) **Response to Argument**

Definitions

The following are definitions from Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 1999.

- Call – In a program, an instruction or statement that transfers program execution to some section of code, such as a subroutine, to perform a specific task. Once the specific task is performed, program execution resumes at the calling point in the program.
- Map – Any representation of the structure of an object. For example, memory map describes the layout of objects in an area of memory, and a symbol map lists the associations between symbol names and memory addresses in a program.
- Metadata – Data about data. For, example, the title, subject, author, and size of a file constitutes metadata about a file.

Appellant's Definitions

- Instance - An "**instance**" is the coupling of an access method 414 with a description of the data to be processed by that access method 414, i.e., data passed to an application 412 or placed on the queuing mechanism 410. The "description of the data" includes the format of the messages and parameters expected by an application 412. One or more access method instances can be created for each access method 414.

Appellant argues that Meltzer does not disclose applicant's invention as defined by the features of the instant claim 1. The examiner disagrees and maintains the rejection and notes that Meltzer clearly teaches the process and objectives of the instant claim. In

regards to applicant's parsing of the disclosure of Meltzer, it is noted that applicant's invention in light of the definitions provided above clearly teaches the invention as stated in claim 1 of the instant application. To further clarify applicant is directed to FIG 13, clearly depicts at least one application present and transforming the format from a requesting entity and mapping (parsing) the data into a transformed document (1300-1303). Further, there must be metadata produced to define what the relationship is since the data needs to be transformed back to the original format when sent to the requestor (1311). And lastly, the router service (1304 and 1310) is clearly calling the program that is needed to process the service requested by the participant (col 83, lines 1-30).

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Fadok
Primary Examiner

July 2, 2006

Conferees



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